



Neighborhood Relations

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The mission of
Neighborhood Relations
is to enhance the ability
of citizens to seek
resolutions and become
active participants in
determining the future of
their neighborhoods.

Mayor Wharton Invites Neighborhood Organizations to Green-Up

Mayor A C Wharton, Jr. is inviting neighborhood organizations to participate in the first Memphis Green Up Festival. The event will take place on Saturday, October 30, 2010 from 11:00 a.m.—

importance of authentic community engagement by providing educational tools and enrichment opportunities for citizens to become more green conscious and aware while also galvanizing groups and organizations across the community around this ideal.”

Mayor Wharton’s office recently mailed a letter to key community leaders who are associated with Memphis’ vital neighborhood

associations. The Mayor wrote “I am writing to enlist your support and that of your fellow association members for this effort.”

Neighborhood organizations were requested to connect with the overall plan, by organizing a Green - Up Clean-Up activity for their neighborhoods in the month of October leading up to the festival. The clean-up activities are supported through Memphis City Beautiful and Clean Memphis, a partnering community organization.

Organizations may register their support of this endeavor by contacting: Eldra White, Executive Director of Memphis City Beautiful, at 901-522-1135 or by email at eldra.white@memphistn.gov. General inquiries about the festival can be e-mailed to greenup@memphistn.gov.



3:00 p.m. at the Downtown Farmers Market, which is located downtown at Front St. and G.E. Patterson. Event organizers said the festival, which will be held in conjunction with the Downtown Farmers Market, is one of the ways the city is emphasizing sustainability as a key plank in the platform of the overall *City of Choice* efforts. Mayor Wharton stated, “Increasing sustainability is a goal and objective that requires a community wide approach. Individual efforts become monumental when they are magnified through expansive adoption and implementation.

This festival recognizes the

Pledge now to **GreenUp Memphis**

Join Mayor A C Wharton Jr. in his citywide effort to do whatever it takes to make Memphis a beautiful, clean and green place to live, work and play. Organize a clean up in your community and become a part of Mayor Wharton’s clean team!

Your volunteer group will receive a **GreenUp Starter Kit**, with gloves, trash bags and more!

You’ll also be recognized with a special certificate presented by Mayor Wharton, and your group might even win a prize at the

GreenUp Memphis Festival
on October 30!



U of M to Host Strengthening Communities Summit

Neighborhood organizations interested in new ideas, funding and collaborative opportunities for neighborhood-based projects will not want to miss the Strengthening Communities Summit! "Creative Communities: Design as a Community Development Strategy" will be held from 8:00 a.m. - 3 p.m., Friday, October 22, 2010 in the University Center at the University of Memphis.

The event will showcase projects funded by the Strengthening Communities grant making program, and will promote community/university partnerships, feature nationally and locally recognized experts, and offer informative workshops designed to provide a real world, hands-on look at what it takes to create and sustain a successful neighborhood-based project through collaboration with higher education institutions.

Strengthening Communities is an initiative of the School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy at the University of Memphis. The programs in SCI are designed to build capacity in neighborhoods and community organizations while furthering the engaged scholarship activities of the university faculty. Grant awards are made each spring. Teams must include a community non-profit organization and an Assistant, Associate, or Full professor at the University of Memphis. Proposals should focus on implementing a neighborhood-based project.

For more Information about the Summit call 901.678.2614, e-mail strengthencommunities@memphis.edu or go online to www.memphis.edu/scgrants.



**Interested in Receiving a
Strengthening Communities Grant or Finding
New Partners for
Service-Learning Collaborations?**

Plan to attend these free events:

Interest Meeting and Matchmaking Breakfast

8:30 a.m., Thursday, October 21
University Center at the University of Memphis

Interest Meeting

5:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 4
Community Foundation of Greater Memphis Offices

Cooperative Computer Ministry Offers Free Computers to Non-Profit and Neighborhood Organizations

Cooperative Computer Ministry grew from a dialogue between Nathan Hill, the organization's coordinator and his colleague Richard Cook. The men talked about their ambitions to bridge the gaps of racial and class disparities. So, in 1994 they launched CCM as a vehicle to give people from underserved communities an opportunity keep up with the pace of education and news with refurbished computers. Three years later, in June 1997, the organization became a ministry of Memphis Leadership Foundation, where

it houses hundreds of computers at the Foundation's 1548 Poplar Avenue location.

Thousands of computers, refurbished by the organization's Jobs Skills Training students, have been placed in local homes, day care centers, churches, schools and social service agencies. The organization recently decided to also donate computers and monitors to neighborhood and community-based organizations.

Hill stated, "CCM relies on corporations and agencies to help bridge the digital divide through donations of computer equipment and financial support." He also said one of the organization's greatest challenges at this time is a lack of storage space. Still, Hill remains dedicated to CCM's mission to build communion within the community through computer recclamation, job skills training and computer learning centers.

CCM's brochure describes its outreach efforts as, "Job Corps interns, at the crossroads of college and career choices, community service participants building a new way of life, and smiling grade school students are touched by CCM programs and your donations."

For additional information about donating or requesting computer equipment contact Nathan Hill at nhill1@bellsouth.net or at 901-725-3121.



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Office of Youth Services and Community Affairs
315 S. Hollywood Street • Memphis, TN 38104
901-636-6592 • Fax: 901-452-2510
Website: www.cityofmemphis.org**

State Bill will Allow Land Bank to Donate Property

Tennessee State Representatives G.A. Har-daway and Larry Miller recently sponsored House Bill Number 3069. The Bill is an act to amend Tennessee Code Annotated,

Section 67-5-2509, relative to gifting properties to non-profit community development organizations. The Bill states that any county that has a population in excess of 800,000 citizens, may give property to a non-profit community development corporation, in lieu of selling it to private purchasers.

The bill further indicates, "The property may be conveyed on terms, including but not limited to, limitations of use or reversion, as deemed appropriate to the governing body of the municipality or county, except that under no circumstances shall the nonprofit community development corporation be required to pay the taxes, penalties or interest for which the property was sold."

Information about properties that are available as a result of House Bill 3069 can be obtained at Shelby County Land Bank, located at 584 Adams Avenue or by calling 901-545-4440.



Neighborhood Leaders Convene

On Saturday November 6, 2010, Livable Memphis will host its 4th Annual Summit for Neighborhood Leaders. The event will be held at Bridges, which is located at 477 N. Fifth St. from 8:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m. This year's topic is "Livability is a Family Thing; Building Cities for Children, the Elderly and Everyone in Between." During the free luncheon, Keynote Speaker, Sadhu Johnston, Deputy Mayor of Vancouver, Canada will speak on Making Cities Attractive for Families.

Workshop Sessions and Panel Discussions will include:

- ♦ Green Parenting
- ♦ Engaging Youth in Your Neighborhood
- ♦ Preservation Beyond Old Buildings
- ♦ Increased Walkability Equals Increased Property Values
- ♦ What do More Bikes on the Road Mean for Drivers, and more.

Additionally, a new Kids Track with sessions on bike repair and safety, games, and more will be presented! Youth 8 years and older may register to attend.

For more questions or to register, call Sarah Newstok at 901-725-8370 or email sarah@livablememphis.org

Assisi Supports ReadyNeighborhoods

Neighborhood Relations is partnering with Ready-Shelby.org and the Assisi Foundation to launch *I'm Ready Neighborhoods*, an emergency preparedness initiative that will provide education and information to help residents protect and equip themselves for emergency situations.

The municipal Mayors of Shelby County endorsed ReadyShelby.org in 2008 and stated they believe emergency preparedness is a critical focus for the entire community. The Mayors joined forces and signed a proclamation to

all work together on the following goals:

- ♦ Educate Shelby County residents on how to prepare for an emergency with specific attention given to the first 72 hours after an emergency; and
- ♦ Partner with public, private, faith-based, and non-profit sectors to share the guidelines and overall importance of emergency preparedness with Shelby County residents

During the next 12 months, residents of all neighborhoods will be asked to get their family and friends emergency ready. Participation is simple—five easy steps as outlined by Ready Shelby is what each resident must complete for neighborhood organizations to qualify for valuable prizes such as chain saws, walkie talkies, generators, automated external defibrillators and fire extinguishers.

1. Create a family communication plan ... where to meet, whom to call, who's picking up the kids, etc.
2. Determine your safe place at home, at work, at church, etc.
3. Pack an emergency kit and a first aid kit
4. Learn compression-only CPR
5. Participate in free Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training

The campaign will culminate during Emergency Preparedness Month in September 2011, when the neighborhoods will meet for a Neighborhoods Emergency Preparedness Summit. The hands-on workshops will include interactive sessions and roundtable discussions through training and partnerships. Additional information about the Summit will be available from Neighborhood Relations soon.



SAVE THE DATE!

MULTICULTURAL MEMPHIS EXPO

Global Buffet ~ Art ~ Entertainment

Thursday, October 21, 2010 • 11:30 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
City Hall Plaza and Hall of Mayors • 125 N. Main St.

For more information contact Nika Jackson @
901-576-6506 or nika.jackson@memphistn.gov



ABC's Extreme Makeover: Home Edition is Searching for Memphis Families

Do you know a family whose home deserves an Extreme Makeover, or a family who simply deserves a home? If so, the producers of ABC's *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* want to hear from you. Ty Pennington and his crew have been all across the map and now they want to drive that famous bus to Tennessee!

"We are looking for the deserving people and inspiring families that America can really root for," says Supervising Casting Director Adam Drucker. What does it take to be picked for an Extreme Makeover? "We're looking for those special people who have amazing strength of character and never give up. Whether it's keeping their chin up in really tough circumstances or going out of their way to help others. We want to help people whose stories have really affected their community or made a big difference in other people's lives." Drucker added: "There are a lot of people who are heroes to those around them because of the way they inspire others and quietly serve their communities on a daily basis."

The *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* producers are looking for families whose homes desperately need to be rebuilt. "We really want to help families whose homes present major problems for the family, those big issues that affect the family's quality of life on a daily basis. We want to find deserving people who just don't have the resources, ability, or time to fix those serious issues without our help." This season Extreme Makeover is also looking for families, who do not own their own homes, so long as land is available through other sources, a nonprofit, city or county.

Nominations may be submitted by the family or by a member of their community. Each nomination must include the names and ages of every member of the household along with a description of the major challenges within the home, and a short description of the family story. Anyone submitting a nomination should be sure to explain why the nominated family is deserving, heroic, and/or a great role model for their community. If possible, include recent photos of the family and home. All nominations must include a **contact phone number**. Please send nominations to ExtremeMemphis@gmail.com by October 31, 2010. For more information on how to apply, please visit the show's website at <http://abc.go.com/primetime/xtremehome/index.pn=apply>.



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315 S. Hollywood Street
Memphis, TN 38104